

## DELAWARE

1. World Language Teacher Study Abroad Scholarships – Under a three-year federal Foreign Language Assistance Program, *Delaware Capacity Initiatives*, the Delaware Department of Education (DDOE) offers scholarships for World Language teachers to study abroad at the destination of their choice and in their language specialty. To date, 30 teachers have benefited from this scholarship program, and 12 more will participate in the 2002-03 academic year.
2. Asia Project – DDOE and three institutions of higher education (IHE), the University of Delaware, Delaware State University, and the Delaware Technical Community College, have collaborated to undertake a professional development project to enhance teachers' knowledge about Asia. Through this project, DDOE will provide intensive professional development to teachers in Social Studies, World Languages, and Visual and Performing Arts. Eventually, DDOE plans to offer these opportunities to teachers of all instructional levels and disciplines.
3. Civitas – The International Civic Education Exchange Program is a cooperative project of civic education organizations in the United States and emerging or established democracies throughout the world. The Civitas Exchange Program, which began in 1995, is administered by the Center for Civic Education and is funded by the U.S. Department of Education under the Education for Democracy Act approved by the U.S. Congress. The program is implemented worldwide in cooperation with the U.S. Department of State. The Civitas Program provides leaders in civic education with opportunities to learn from and assist each other in improving education for democracy in their nations. Representatives from DDOE, in partnership with Maryland and Oregon, are working with educators in Croatia to achieve the following goals: (1) acquaint international educators with exemplary curricular and teacher training programs in the United States; (2) assist international educators in creating, adapting, and implementing effective civic education programs in their own countries; (3) create and implement civic education programs for students in the United States that will help them better understand the history and experiences of emerging and advanced democracies; and (4) facilitate the exchange of ideas and experiences in civic education among educational, governmental, and private sector leaders in the United States and emerging or established democracies. More specifically, educators from the partner states and Croatia are developing model lesson plans on various aspects of civic education. These educators will travel to Croatia and the partner states, respectively, to work with their colleagues and present these lessons in classroom situations. The lessons will be revised and shared with the participants in other exchange programs.
4. Multicultural Education Event – The Delaware Multicultural Education Council, a community-based coalition of 15 ethnic groups in the State of Delaware, has partnered with the Delaware Department of Education since 1999. Its goal is to provide students in K-12 schools with the opportunity to interact with Delawareans who have cultural ties to the rest of the world. Additionally, it brings together cultural agencies such as Grand Opera House in Wilmington, the Swartz Center in Dover, and the Historical Society of Delaware to offer facility and workshops; and multinational corporations such as DuPont and MBNA, and NGO agencies such as the International Council of Delaware to offer funding support. The event grew quickly from serving 600 students in the first year to 3,000 students in the third year. DDOE also collaborates with the cultural communities to develop students' Study Guide in order to maximize students' gains through their participation of the day's events.
5. Delaware-Miyagi Education Exchange Program – This exchange program, funded by a grant from the International Council of Delaware, has been in existence since 1996, expanding from one local school district to statewide participation. Each year, the program enables a group of Delaware students and teachers to participate in an official two-week reciprocal cultural homestay exchange program with Delaware's sister state of Miyagi Prefecture, Japan. Each group consists of ten students and two

teachers (five boys, five girls, one male teacher, and one female teacher), who are selected throughout the State and the Prefecture. The exchange begins with the Japanese group coming in March, and the Delaware group visiting Miyagi, Japan in July. Traveling and immersion experiences have elevated participants' understanding of and appreciation for another culture to a higher level. All participants, whether they visit Japan or host Japanese guests, are ambassadors of Delaware society and foster long-lasting friendship between the two countries and the states.

6. Local Exchange Programs – There are many other local student and teacher exchange programs. For example, Brandywine School District has a High School German Exchange Program; Capital School District has a Middle School Japanese Exchange Program; Colonial School District has a French Exchange Program; and Sussex Central School District has a Middle School German Program. Furthermore, over the years, the DDOE has received numerous international educator groups from many parts of the world.

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